

## **OREGON TO GET \$11.6 MILLION TO REDUCE CLASS SIZE**

In his weekly radio address, President Clinton will urge Congress to work in a bipartisan spirit to continue his plan to reduce class size in early grades to 18 students per teacher. He will also announce that the U.S. Department of Education is releasing new guidelines to help states and local school districts use the funds they will receive this summer to begin hiring well-qualified teachers to reduce class size in early grades. As the U.S. Senate considers the Education Flexibility Act, it is more important than ever that the Murray-Kennedy amendment to continue the President's class size reduction plan is passed as well.

Studies show that smaller class sizes help teachers provide more personal attention to students and spend less time on discipline; as a result students learn more and get a stronger foundation in the basic skills. In 1998, President Clinton proposed to help local schools hire 100,000 well-prepared teachers in order to reduce class size in grades 1-3 to a national average of 18, and make sure that every child gets a solid foundation in the basics. Last year, the President signed into law the first installment of his seven-year, \$12.4 billion proposal to hire 100,000 new teachers nationwide. For the first year, \$1.2 billion was provided to help local communities hire 30,000 teachers. The funds will be available to school districts in July. Local school boards will be incorporating these funds into the budgets they are developing right now for the next school year. To give communities the certainty they need to effectively plan and phase in a seven-year reduction in class size, Congress must act now.

In July, Oregon will receive \$11.6 million as its first installment of funds to hire teachers to reduce class size in early grades. For Oregon's largest school districts, that means:

<b>OREGON</b>	
PORTLAND SCH DIST 1J	\$1,586,240
SALEM/KEIZER SCH DIST 24	694,667
BEAVERTON SCH DIST 48J	370,316
EUGENE SCH DIST 04J	363,710
SPRINGFIELD SCH DIST 019	316,239
MEDFORD SCH DIST 549	281,435
THREE RIVERS SCH DIST	247,849
BEND ADMIN SCH DIST 1	221,020
NORTH CLACKAMAS SCH DIST	204,599
KLAMATH CO SCH DIST	199,704
LINCOLN CO SCH DIST	191,237
DAVID DOUGLAS SCH DIST 4	176,983
GREATER ALBANY SCH DIST	171,525
GRANTS PASS SCH DIST 007	163,632
WOODBURN SCH DIST 103	157,120
ROSEBURG SCH DIST 4	154,450
COOS BAY SCH DIST 009	138,413
EAGLE POINT SCH DIST 009	134,979
OREGON CITY SCH DIST 062	132,069
GRESHAM-BARLOW SCH DIST	129,778

The guidelines and total estimated school district allocations are available on the Internet at <http://www.ed.gov/inits/ClassSize/index.html>.